

Mark 6:1-5 *"1 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.*

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? 3 Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

4 Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." 5 He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them."

Mark 6:6-13 *"6 He was amazed at their lack of faith.*

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. 7 Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits.

8 These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. 9 Wear sandals but not an extra shirt. 10 Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. 11 And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them."

12 They went out and preached that people should repent. 13 They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them."

Mark 6:14-29 *"14 King Herod heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well known. Some were saying, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him."*

15 Others said, "He is Elijah."

And still others claimed, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago."

16 But when Herod heard this, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!"

17 For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. 18 For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." 19 So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, 20 because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled; yet he liked to listen to him.

21 Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. 22 When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests.

The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." 23 And he promised her with an oath, "Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom."

24 She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?"

"The head of John the Baptist," she answered.

25 At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

26 The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. 27 So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, 28 and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. 29 On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb."

Mark 6:30-33 "30 The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. 31 Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

32 So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. 33 But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them."

Mark 6:34-44 "34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

35 By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. 36 Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

37 But he answered, "You give them something to eat."

They said to him, "That would take more than half a year's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"

38 "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see."

When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish."

39 Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. 41 Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. 42 They all ate and were satisfied, 43 and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. 44 The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand."

Mark 6:45-52 "45 Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. 46 After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.

47 Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. 48 He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, 49 but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, 50 because they all saw him and were terrified.

Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." 51 Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, 52 for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened."

JESUS AND THE OLD TESTAMENT IN THIS PASSAGE

1. The Good Shepherd (Numbers 27:17; Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34)
 - a. Teaches the people
 - b. Lie down in green pastures
 - c. Fed them (feminine characteristic; yes, Bradley I was listening to your sermon) sets a table in the presence of my enemies
 - d. Still waters (once Jesus is in the boat)
 - e. Leads us on the right paths (not retribution)
 - f. Walks through the valley of the shadow of death (death of John the Baptist and his own death; and of course, the physical death of those close to us while on earth)
 - g. John's gospel tells of the Good Shepherd being the door or gate and that the Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (John 10)
 - h. Moses prayed for a shepherd to care for the sheep when he was gone. Joshua replaced Moses. Dan Jones might help us understand this, Jesus is Greek for Joshua. In other words, Jesus replaces Moses again.
 - i. Psalm 23 is about a metaphorical shepherd
 - j. Ezekiel 34 prophesies a shepherd in the future.
 - k. Mark 6 shows us a shepherd present, now, and as such the crucial application to our understanding the Deity of Jesus
2. Moses and Jesus
 - a. Moses considered the greatest figure in Israelite history
 - b. Like one of the prophets of old
 - c. Jesus leads people in the wilderness (quiet place) Deut. 3:20; Josh. 1:13 Psalm 95:7-11; Isaiah 63:14; Jer. 31:2 a theme
 - d. Jesus commands the people and they follow
 - e. Jesus feeds the people in the wilderness (God feeds the people in the wilderness in the OT at Moses request in Numbers 11:13, 22 which the disciples seem to echo with their focus, or complaint on cost)
 - f. Moses parts the waters at God's command (Jesus walks on water)
 - g. Job also mentions God walking on water Job 9:8,11

- h. God “passed by” and revealed himself to Moses; Jesus “passes by” in order to reveal himself to the disciples; Ezekiel also uses the “passes by” phrase to mean a revealing to Elisha or in modern language an “Epiphany”
 - i. God stated his name as “I am” to Moses; Jesus did the same to his disciples “It is I” and “I am” are identical in Greek.
 - j. Moses led the Exodus from Egypt; Jesus is inviting Israel to become the people of God to follow the Messiah to be a participant in the Kingdom of God.
3. Characteristics of Old Testament Prophets
- a. Of the Spirit
 - b. Of the Word
 - c. Spoke for God
 - d. Performed symbolic actions
 - e. Confronted religious leaders/outward observance versus inward obedience
 - f. Concern for the marginalized
 - g. Emphasized Kingdom of God/Goodness of God/Judgement of God
 - h. Called people to repent/Turn from sin and world to God